

# WHAT'S A HOOSIER?



## Your Guide to Indiana History

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# **Your Guide To Indiana History**

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Indiana: The World Around Us  
MacMillian/McGraw-Hill, 1991**

# INDIANA FACTS:

## STATE FLAG



The star above the torch stands for Indiana, which was the 19th state to join the Union. The state colors are blue and gold.

## STATE CAPITAL

The capital of Indiana is Indianapolis. The Statehouse is located in Indianapolis. Corydon was the first Indiana capital from 1813 to 1825.

## POPULATION

Indiana is the 15th largest state. According to the latest statistics, 6,483,802 Hoosiers live here!

## STATE SEAL



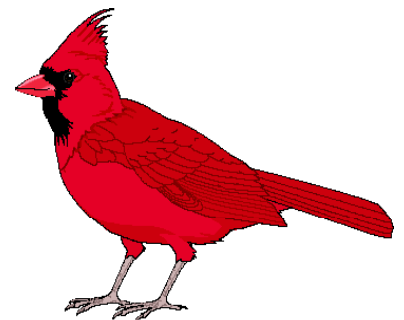
The State Seal depicts a pioneer scene portraying "how the early people of Indiana overcame the wilderness." The seal has been in use since 1801, but it was not officially adopted until 1963.

## STATE FLOWER



**Peony**

## STATE BIRD



**Cardinal**

# OUR NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE

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Indiana means “the land of the Indians.” Early Native Americans lived like nomads. A nomad is a person who moves from place to place in search for food. Native Americans made spears from stone tips. They used these spears to hunt large animals, like the mammoth. Native Americans later learned to hunt faster animals with bow and arrows. Native Americans also found food by fishing and gathering plants.

Eventually, the Native Americans stopped moving from place to place and settled down to become farmers. They grew plants like corn, beans, squash, and tobacco. Because the Native Americans began to stay in one place, villages and towns were formed.

Many different Native American groups lived in Indiana. These groups included the Potawatomi, Shawnee, Wyandotte, Piankaska, Delaware, and Miami.



The Miami were one of the most important Native American tribes. They lived between the Wabash and White rivers, and often used canoes to travel down the river. This river route provided a way for people to trade who lived far away from each other.

The Miami grew pumpkins, melons, beans, and most importantly corn. They found that corn was easy to grow because of the long, hot summers and the fertile soil, near the rivers. Today, farmers in Indiana are still growing thousands of acres of corn in the Wabash Valley area each year.

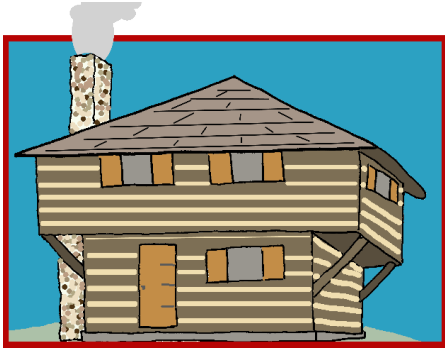
Kekionga was the most important Miami village. Kekionga was located in north-central Indiana between the Wabash and Maumee rivers. It was near an important portage, or a path to cross land, where people can carry boats and goods from one body of water to another. This portage was important because the Miami used the rivers for trade and travel. Kekionga was located where Fort Wayne is today.

The Native Americans were also builders of mounds. Mounds are large piles of earth. Archaeologists believe the mounds were used as places to worship and as homes for their chiefs. Mounds State Park in Anderson and Angel Mounds State Historic Site near Evansville offer a glimpse into the Native Americans' past.

# EARLY HOOSIERS and STATEHOOD

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The first people to arrive in Indiana from Europe were French fur traders. One of France's most famous explorers was Robert La Salle. He discovered a route from the Great Lakes to the Kankakee River, which helped French fur traders move to Indiana and open trading posts. The French befriended the Native Americans who were living in Indiana and began trading goods for valuable furs to send to Europe.



The French often lived among the Native Americans and learned about their way of life. In turn, they taught the Native Americans the French way of life. Soon, the Native Americans began to depend on trade goods supplied by the French.

To protect the fur traders, the French built forts throughout the area. Fort Ouiatenon was built on the Wabash River in 1717. It was named for the Wea Indians, a part of the Miami Tribe. This fort is still located near present-day Lafayette.

Forts were also built near Vincennes and Kekionga, located near the Wabash River. The river became a major trade route for the French. In the 1750s, British fur traders moved into areas where the French were trading.

While most Native Americans preferred to trade with the French, some decided to trade with the British. This competition upset the French, and the countries went to war.

The Native Americans aligned themselves with the French and fought the British from 1754 to 1763. This was known as the French and Indian War. In Indiana, the British took control of Fort Ouiatenon and Fort Miami which allowed them to control the Wabash River and the fur trade.

The war between the British and French ended with the signing of the Treaty of Paris. Now the British controlled the French forts, but the Native Americans did not like this change.

Pontiac, a Native American leader, decided to fight the British since British settlers were using Indiana land for farming. Pontiac worked to unite all of the Native American tribes in Indiana to fight against the British. The Native Americans were successful in capturing Fort Miami and Fort Ouiatenon from the British.

However, once winter came along the Native American warriors needed to move back to their villages and could not guard the forts from the British troops. Eventually, the British recaptured the forts and the Native Americans began to trade with the British.



The Native Americans agreed to trade with the British because the British guaranteed that they would not move west of the Appalachian Mountains. However, the colonists did not like being told what to do by the British government and they began to move into the frontier.

The confrontations between the colonists and the British government led to the American Revolution, which lasted from 1776-1783.

When the American colonists won the Revolutionary War, America's borders expanded all the way to the Mississippi River. The American government called this new land the Northwest Territory. This land was not officially recognized as individual states, but it did belong to the United States.

During the 1780s, pioneers from the eastern states began to move into the new territory. Again, the Native Americans became concerned because the new settlers were taking over and farming their land.

Miami Chief Little Turtle organized more than 1,000 warriors to fight the American soldiers. After the Battle of Fallen Timbers, Chief Little Turtle decided that the Native Americans must seek peace with the settlers. Chief Little Turtle and General Anthony Wayne signed the Treaty of Greenville.

General Wayne promised to let the Native Americans live in the western part of the Northwest Territory and to pay them for the land the Native Americans gave them. The pioneers were then allowed to live in the eastern part of the territory.

William Henry Harrison was named the first governor of the Indiana Territory and he governed for 12 years. During this time, Indiana's population continued to grow and Indiana became the 19th state on December 11, 1816.





## **AGRICULTURE and the HOOSIER ECONOMY**

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Agriculture has a strong tradition in Indiana. One of our state's major crops is corn. Indiana is part of the Corn Belt States, which is made up of several Midwestern and Plain States.

The corn our farmers grow is used for many things including food for livestock and automobile fuel (known as ethanol).

Indiana is also the biggest producer of popcorn in the country. Orville Redenbacher, from Valparaiso, started one of the biggest popcorn companies in America.

### Products that come from the corn plant include:

- *Seeds:* Popcorn, Corn Meal, Corn Starch and Animal Feed
- *Oil in Seeds:* Corn Oil, Paint, Margarine and Ethanol
- *Stems and Leaves:* Hay and Fertilizer

### Industries that use corn products:

- Electronics Manufacturing
- Steel
- Metal Products
- Transportation Equipment and Vehicles
- Pharmaceuticals

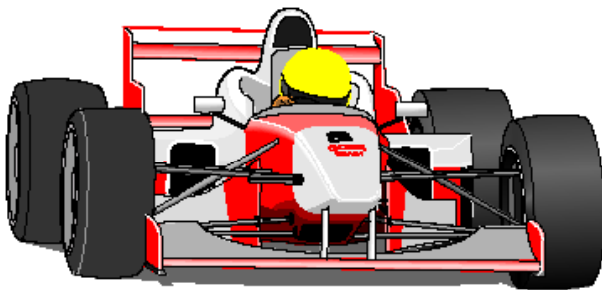


# HOOSIER TRADITIONS

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**Space Program** - During the 1950's, the United States and the Soviet Union battled to see which country could reach space first-this is known as the "Race to Space." Gus Grissom is one of Indiana's most famous astronauts and the second American to travel into space. On July 21, 1961, Gus was aboard the United States' Mercury capsule which he named the Liberty Bell. Although the flight took only 15 minutes, it was an important step in American space travel.

Dr. David A. Wolf, a graduate of North Central High School in Indianapolis, received his Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University in 1978. He then went on to receive a doctorate of medicine from Indiana University in 1982. Dr. Wolf became a NASA astronaut who has spent extended periods of time in space. In 1997, Dr. Wolf boarded the Russian space station, Mir, for a total of 119 days.



## **The Indianapolis Motor Speedway**

recently celebrated 100 years of motorsports during the 2010-2011 racing season. The Motor Speedway hosts some of the biggest races in racing history, such as the Indianapolis 500, also known as the "**Greatest Spectacle of Racing**," and the NASCAR Brickyard 400.

Over the last few years, the Speedway has become host to the Grand Prix Formula One and MotoGP races. With more than 250,000 permanent seats, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway is also the world's largest seating facility.

**Hoosier Basketball** - Although basketball was invented in Massachusetts, the sport has become one of our state's greatest Hoosier traditions. Whether it is the high school state basketball tournament, the rivalry of Indiana universities or the professional teams the Indiana Pacers and the Indiana Fever, Hoosiers cheer for and follow all levels of basketball.

Hoosier Hysteria began in 1954 when the tiny school of Milan, total enrollment of 162 students, defeated Muncie Central High School. The game ended when Bobby Plump scored the dramatic game winning shot. In addition, the movie "Hoosiers" captures what the sport means to so many of Indiana's citizens with its story of a small school winning the Indiana Boys State Basketball Championship.





# FAMOUS HOOSIERS

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James Dean, *Actor*  
Jim Davis, *Creator, Garfield, Comic Strip Cat*  
David Letterman, *Late night talk show host*  
Dr. David Wolf, *Astronaut*  
Benjamin Harrison, *President*  
William Henry Harrison, *President*  
James Danforth "Dan" Quayle, *Vice President*  
Madame C.J. Walker, *Civic Leader*  
John Andretti, *Indy Car Driver*  
Oscar Robertson, *Basketball Player*  
John Wooden, *Basketball Coach*  
Larry Bird, *Basketball Player*  
Knute Rockne, *College Football Coach*  
Ernie Pyle, *Journalist*  
Shelly Long, *Actress*  
Jane Pauley, *News Anchor*  
Red Skelton, *Comedian*  
Jeff Gordon, *NASCAR Driver*  
John Mellencamp, *Musician*  
Cole Porter, *Songwriter*  
Michael Jackson, *Musician*  
Janet Jackson, *Actress and Musician*  
Kurt Vonnegut, *Author*  
Florence Henderson, *Actress*  
John Dillinger, *Infamous Bank Robber*  
Johnny Appleseed, *Folk Hero*

Wilma Rudolph, *Olympic Gold Medalist Track and Field*  
Gus Grissom, *Astronaut*  
Steve McQueen, *Actor*  
James Whitcomb Riley, *Poet*  
Mark Spitz, *Olympic Gold Medal Swimmer*  
Ryan White, *AIDS Activist*  
Bob Griese, *Football Quarterback*  
Richard Lugar, *United States Senator*  
Orville and Wilbur Wright, *Inventors*  
Eli Lilly, *Pharmaceutical Leader*  
Bill Blass, *Fashion Designer*  
Eugene V. Debs, *Socialist Leader*  
Theodore Dreiser, *Author*  
James R. Hoffa, *Labor Leader*  
Carole Lombard, *Actress*  
Wendell Wilkie, *Presidential Candidate*  
Orville Redenbacher, *Popcorn King*  
Clement Studebaker, *Auto Manufacturer*  
Levi Coffin, *Abolitionist*  
Abraham Lincoln, *President*  
May Wright Sewall, *Suffragette*  
Lew Wallace, *Diplomat and Author*  
Robert Wise, *Movie Director*  
Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds, *Musician*  
Vivica A. Fox, *Actress*





***Unscramble the following words.  
(Hint: Each word has something to do with Indiana geography.)***

1. ihoo rvrie \_\_\_\_\_
2. lveeiansv \_\_\_\_\_
3. bklaeslatb \_\_\_\_\_
4. uthecems \_\_\_\_\_
5. teknu ekncro \_\_\_\_\_
6. aawshb llyvea \_\_\_\_\_
7. ryag \_\_\_\_\_
8. ngael dumosn \_\_\_\_\_
9. ealttyfae \_\_\_\_\_
10. mietoensl \_\_\_\_\_
11. dclianra \_\_\_\_\_

## **Multiple Choice:**

**1) What is Indiana's longest river?**

- a) Amazon River**
- b) Mississippi River**
- c) Wabash River**
- d) Colorado River**

**2) What is the major river located in southern Indiana?**

- a) Tippecanoe River**
- b) Ohio River**
- c) Mississippi River**
- d) Colorado River**

**3) What type of rock is Indiana known for?**

- a) Limestone**
- b) Coal**
- c) Marble**
- d) Concrete**

**4) Indian Chief Little Turtle was Chief of what tribe?**

- a) Miami**
- b) Apache**
- c) Shawnee**
- d) Sioux**

**5) The Battle of Tippecanoe was fought between what two leaders?**

- a) George Washington and King George of Great Britain**
- b) George Rogers Clark and Chief Little Turtle**
- c) William Henry Harrison and Tecumseh**
- d) William Henry Harrison and Chief Little Turtle**

**6) Abraham Lincoln was the \_\_\_\_\_ President?**

- a) 5<sup>th</sup> President**
- b) 10<sup>th</sup> President**
- c) 15<sup>th</sup> President**
- d) 16<sup>th</sup> President**

**7) Indiana was the \_\_\_\_\_ state admitted into the Union?**

- a) 12<sup>th</sup>**
- b) 15<sup>th</sup>**
- c) 19<sup>th</sup>**
- d) 21<sup>st</sup>**



### **True or False:**

- 1) Indiana fought on the Confederate (southern) side during the Civil War.**
- 2) The current state capital is located in Ft. Wayne.**
- 3) One of Indiana's major crops is corn.**
- 4) Richard Lugar is one of our state's current U.S. Senators.**
- 5) Jim Davis was the creator of the Raggedy Ann & Andy dolls.**
- 6) The tulip is the official state flower.**
- 7) The Indianapolis 500 is a famous basketball tournament.**
- 8) George Rogers Clark was a famous frontiersman who defeated the British at Vincennes.**
- 9) Gus Grissom was the first American man in space.**

# **ANSWERS:**

## **History Scramble**

- 1) Ohio River
- 2) Evansville
- 3) Basketball
- 4) Tecumseh
- 5) Knute Rockne
- 6) Wabash Valley
- 7) Gary
- 8) Angel Mounds
- 9) Lafayette
- 10) Limestone
- 11) Cardinal

## **Multiple Choice:**

- 1) Wabash River
- 2) Ohio River
- 3) Limestone
- 4) Miami
- 5) William Henry Harrison and Tecumseh
- 6) 16<sup>th</sup> President
- 7) 19<sup>th</sup> State

## **True or False:**

- |                                                        |                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) False, Indiana fought on the Union (northern) side. | 6) False, Peony is the state flower                    |
| 2) False, Indianapolis                                 | 7) False, Indianapolis 500 is a famous automobile race |
| 3) True                                                | 8) True                                                |
| 4) True                                                | 9) False, Gus Grissom was second.                      |
| 5) False, Garfield                                     |                                                        |